

REMARKS

This is an Amendment in response to the Final Office Action dated August 23, 2005, in which a three (3) month Shortened Statutory Period for Response is set to expire on November 23, 2005. Claims 5-8, 10-11, 15, 17-21, 23-24, and 27-29 have been amended. Claims 1-4, 9, 12-14, 16, and 26 have been canceled. No new claims have been added. No new matter has been added to the application. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090. Claims 5-8, 10-11, 15, 17-25, and 27-30 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner Nguyen for allowing claim 30 and for indicating that claims 11, 27, and 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, which would include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 11, 27, and 28 to be in independent form. Accordingly, independent claims 11, 27, 28, and 30 are now in an allowable condition, thus rendering the Section 103 rejections in the Final Office Action as moot. In addition, all remaining, dependent claims have each been amended to depend from an allowable base claim and are therefore also allowable. Further examination of the claims pending in this application is respectfully requested.

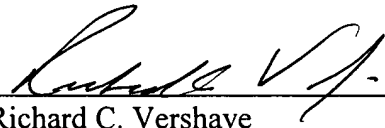
Conclusions

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Applicants respectfully request that Examiner Nguyen give the claim amendments and corresponding remarks full consideration and enter them into the record. Examiner Nguyen is welcome to contact the undersigned to clarify and/or correct any minor issues or informalities.

Application No. 10/660,244
Reply to Office Action dated August 23, 2005

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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